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PLAN EXTENSIVE MEDICAL CARE FOR DOBRUDZHA POPULATION

The execution of the Decree of the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party for the development of agriculture, water supply, and electrification in the Dobrudzha will greatly improve the working and living conditions of the Dobrudzha population. The reorganization of the Dobrudzha is a national task, and it imposes heavy responsibilities on all departments of the government. The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and the public health agencies and institutions in the Dobrudzha have a large part in the struggle for the realization of this monumental plan for the prosperity of the Dobrudzha region.

In execution of the tasks set forth in the decree and to improve disease-prevention work in general in the Dobrudzha, Minister of Public Health and Social Welfare Petur Kolarov has issued a special order.

The organization of sanitary supervision of construction projects is being made the duty of the State Sanitary Inspection Board, which is to see to it that there is effective and timely sanitary supervision over the construction of the water supply and irrigation systems, as well as over all large public, industrial, communal, transport, and other construction work in the Dobrudzha. Special attention is to be paid to machine-tractor station and state farm construction work. To ensure this supervision, the Sanitary Inspection Board will examine the sanitary aspects of all technical and construction projects in detail and will submit recommendations and opinions on them. In connection with sanitary supervision, the heads of the okrug health departments at Ruse and Stalin will take systematic sanitary, anti-epidemic, and curative measures in the rayons where construction is going on, as well as at the construction projects themselves. In the performance of these duties they are to institute regular supervision of water sources, local dwellings, canteens, all irrigation and drainage systems, etc. Special measures are to be taken to improve the work of health institutions and services, which will be given the necessary personnel and will be assured the necessary medicaments materials, and medical equipment. Construction project workers who become ill will have priority and preferential treatment in all hospitals and prophylactic institutions.

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The okrug health departments at Ruse and Stalin will draw up comprehensive plans covering the preventive health measures to be carried out by the sanitary, antiepidemic, medical and prophylactic sanitary network, basing their plans on actual health problems in the various rayons of the Dobrudzha. In addition to the above-mentioned measure covering construction work, special attention will be given to the systematic organization of the fight against tuberculosis and against the susceptibility to illnesses and the high mortality of children. The plans will contain concrete measures extending the network of hospitals and prophylactic institutions and improving the quality of medical aid in the Dobrudzha.

The scientific research institutes in Bulgaria must cope with a number of serious problems in order that all sanitary and medical measures taken may be in accordance with the requirements of medical science. These tasks consist of making a thorough study of the main health problems confronting the Dobrudzha population, such as tuberculosis, contagious diseases, children's susceptibility to illnesses and high child mortality, trachoma, occupational diseases, etc. The scientific research institutes must arrive at definite conclusions and submit concrete recommendations of these problems. On the basis of these studies and of studies relating to the organization of the medicosanitary network, a comprehensive plan will be drawn up for reorganization of health organizations of the Dobrudzha in 1953 and during the second Five-Year Plan.

The order also provides for taking measures to meet the need for sanitary and medical personnel in the Dobrudzha. The number of newly graduated medical doctors and midwives sent to the Dobrudzha will be increased so as to fill positions in all sections of the Dobrudzha by the end of this year. By the end of 1953 the needed new local and regional pharmaceutical stations will also be ready, and a supply of all necessary medicaments and of sanitary equipment will be on hand. To train local medical personnel, measures will be taken to lower entrance requirements of medical academies and schools for the young people of the Dobrudzha. The opening of a school for nurses at Tolbukhin is to take place before 15 September 1951.

The order of the Minister of Public Health and Social Welfare also envisions measures for a large-scale health education program among the Dobrudzha population. A number of popular scientific books on medicine and a series of leaflets and pamphlets will be published, and traveling health expositions will be organized.

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